

**Virginia Association  
of the  
Technology Student Association  
Constitution**

**ARTICLE I - NAME**

The official name of this organization is the "Virginia Association of the Technology Student Association" and may be referred to as "Virginia TSA".

**ARTICLE II - PURPOSES**

**Section 1** - The general purposes of this organization are to:

1. assist local chapters and regional associations in the growth and development of TSA.
2. assist local chapters and regional associations in the development and leadership in social, economic, educational and community activities.
3. increase the knowledge and understanding of our technological world.
4. assist technology education students in the making of informed and meaningful career decisions; and
5. Promote technology education in the public schools of Virginia.

**Section 2** - The specific purposes of this organization are to:

1. Provide the student with opportunities for the development of leadership in social, civic, school, and community activities.
2. Develop through group action the ability of members to plan together, organize and carry out worthy activities and projects.
3. Explore industry and our technological society.
4. Promote high standards of craftsmanship, scholarship, and safety.
5. Foster a deep respect for the dignity of work.
6. Provide good leisure time activities and hobbies.
7. Provide opportunities for wholesome recreation.
8. Encourage students in creative expression.
9. Develop consumer knowledge in students.
10. Instill within students desirable habits and attitudes toward the American way of life, and,
11. Prepare individuals for enrollment in advanced educational and/or technical education programs.

### **ARTICLE III - ORGANIZATION**

**Section 1** - Virginia TSA is an organization of regional associations and local chartered chapters. Each operates in accordance with the Virginia Association of the Technology Student Association Constitution and Bylaws.

**Section 2** - Each regional association and local chartered chapter will be responsible for all operational activities within that organization. TSA members are directly responsible to Virginia TSA via their local chapters.

**Section 3** - The administration of Virginia TSA interests will be vested in the Virginia TSA Executive Council.

**Section 4** - Each regional association will consist of all local chartered chapters within that geographic area which operates in accordance with the Virginia TSA Constitution and Bylaws.

**Section 5** - Each local chapter will consist of a minimum of 10 individual members who are affiliated with TSA.

**Section 6** - The Virginia TSA State Advisor will be assigned by the Virginia Department of Education's State Specialist for Technology Education.

**Section 7** - The Executive Council Advisor shall be the state president's advisor. In the event that the president's advisor cannot serve as Executive Council Advisor, the Executive Council may fill that position by appointment.

**Section 8** - The Co-Executive Council advisors shall be the advisors of the state officers and regional presidents.

### **ARTICLE IV - MEMBERSHIP**

**Section 1** - Membership in Virginia TSA will be open to all students who are enrolled in or have completed a technology education course.

**Section 2** - Virginia TSA will recognize active members through their local chapter and regional association.

**Section 3** - Membership eligibility will be governed by each chartered chapter. Individual membership shall be recognized as active, associate, alumni, professional, honorary and life.

**Section 4** - Active members in Virginia TSA shall be enrolled in or have completed a technology education course. An active member shall pay minimum dues and may be declared eligible to hold a state or regional office, to participate in regional and state competitive events and projects, to serve as a state or regional voting delegate, or otherwise represent their chapter in Virginia TSA affairs as may be approved by the constitution and bylaws.

**Section 5** - Associate members shall be students who are enrolled in related fields of instruction with emphasis in technology. An associate member shall pay dues as established by the Virginia TSA Executive Council. Associate members shall not have the right to vote, to hold office, or to compete in competitive events.

**Section 6** - Alumni members shall consist of those individuals who have completed a technology education program, (have been a former active or associate TSA member), and who have graduated from or left school. Alumni members shall pay dues as established by the Virginia TSA Executive Council. Alumni members shall not have the right to vote, to hold office, or compete in competitive events.

**Section 7** - Professional members are those persons engaged in education, business and industry, who have an interest in Virginia TSA and in the welfare of technology education. Professional members shall pay dues as established by the Executive Council of Virginia TSA. Professional members shall not have the right to vote, to hold office, or to compete in competitive events.

**Section 8** - Honorary members are individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the advancement of TSA as evidenced by the Executive Council of Virginia TSA, and shall be exempt from annual dues. Honorary members shall not have the right to vote, to hold office, or to compete in competitive events.

**Section 9** - Life members may be individuals who are making exemplary contributions to the advancement of TSA as evidenced by the Executive Council of Virginia TSA, and shall pay dues as established by the Virginia TSA Executive Council. Life members shall not have the right to vote, to hold office, or to compete in competitive events.

**Section 10** - No individual or chapter may join TSA by bypassing the state association.

## **ARTICLE V - COMMITTEES**

**Section 1** - The following committees shall be standing committees of Virginia TSA: Leadership Development; Resolutions; Nominations; Auditing; Constitution and Bylaws; Public Relations; Publications; and Archives.

- Section 2** - The Leadership Development Committee shall provide leadership training sessions during TSA workshops and conferences. The committee shall disseminate leadership materials to local chapters.
- Section 3** - The Resolution Committee shall prepare statements expressing the wishes, feelings, or decisions of the association, to be acted upon by the association.
- Section 4** - The Nominations Committee shall provide an officer candidates program in conjunction with the Virginia TSA State Leadership Conference (Technosphere).
- Section 5** - The Auditing Committee shall review the Virginia TSA financial records and shall make a report to the delegate body at the annual business meeting as to the financial status of the association.
- Section 6** - The Constitution and Bylaws Committee shall make/interpret policy and other rules having the force of authority by virtue of the Executive Council.
- Section 7** - The Public Relations Committee shall provide school and community events that foster strong involvement in Technology Education and TSA programs.
- Section 8** - The Publications Committee shall publish a quarterly copy of the Virginia Scene and prepare other information relevant to Technology Education students.
- Section 9** - The Virginia TSA Web Site Committee shall create web-based information for updating and maintaining the Web site throughout the year and shall report student concerns and ideas for new innovative Web-based applications to the Virginia TSA State Advisor.
- Section 10** - The Archives Committee shall prepare an Annual Record Book containing items of historical significance. The committee shall present the record book to Virginia TSA at each Annual Business Meeting.
- Section 11** - The President shall appoint the chairpersons of standing and special committees with the advice of the Executive Advisor as may be deemed advisable to conduct studies or carry out specific projects of the association.
- Section 12** - The duties of standing and special committees are expanded in the Virginia *TSA Officer Handbook*.

## **ARTICLE VI - VOTING**

- Section 1** - Members of local chapters of Virginia TSA will exercise their voting privileges through voting delegates at the annual regional and state conferences.
- Section 2** - Chapter voting delegates are officially elected members that represent the chapter at regional, state, and national business meetings.
- Section 3** - Each chapter is entitled to two (2) voting delegates for the purpose of transacting business at the regional and state business meetings and one (1) vote for each state officer and regional president.
- Section 4** - Each regional association is entitled to two (2) voting delegates for the purpose of transacting business at the regional and state business meetings.
- Section 5** - Chapter voting delegates for national business meetings must conform with the National Constitution and Bylaws.

## **ARTICLE VII - MEETINGS**

- Section 1** - Virginia TSA meetings will be held and planned by the Virginia TSA State Coordinator in conjunction with the Virginia TSA Executive Council.
- Section 2** - An Annual Summer Officers Clinic shall be held each year.
- Section 3** - Fall Regional Leadership workshops shall be held each year for officers, members and advisors to assist them in organizing and managing their chapters as planned by the Department of Education's Technology Education Specialists and the Virginia TSA Executive Council.
- Section 4** - Regional Technology Education Fairs shall be held annually as designated by the Technology Education Specialists (DOE).
- Section 5** - A State Leadership Conference will be held each year with the time and place to be designated by the State Specialist for Technology Education (DOE). The Annual Business Meeting of Virginia TSA shall be held during Technosphere.
- Section 6** - Only active members will be eligible to hold regional and state offices.
- Section 7** - Parliamentary authority for all meetings of Virginia TSA will be governed by *Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised*.

## **ARTICLE VIII - STATE AND REGIONAL OFFICERS**

**Section 1** - Officers of Virginia TSA shall be elected by majority vote of the voting delegates at regional and state conferences. The officers will consist of president; vice-president; secretary; treasurer; sergeant-at-arms; reporter; historian; and parliamentarian.

**Section 2** - Only active members will be eligible to hold regional and state office. To be eligible, a candidate must have a scholastic average of 2.5 or higher based upon the value of A being 4.0; must know parliamentary procedure; must be holding or have held an elective chartered chapter or association office at either the school chapter, regional association, or state association level; and must have received the consent of the chapter advisor and parents.

**Section 3** - State officer applicants must submit an application by mail. The deadline for submitting applications shall be the same date as the deadline for the annual state leadership conference.

**Section 4** - Regional officer applicants must submit an application by mail. The deadline for submitting applications shall be the same date as the deadline for the annual regional springs fairs.

**Section 5** - Graduating seniors are not eligible to hold regional or state office.

**Section 6** - Individuals elected as state officers at the Annual Business Meeting will hold office until the close of the next annual meeting.

**Section 7** - An individual may not succeed herself/himself as a regional or state officer in the same position more than once.

**Section 8** - The Virginia TSA Executive Council may fill by appointment any vacancy occurring in the regional or state offices for the unexpired term, except the president's office, which will be filled by the vice-president.

**Section 9** - If the president is removed or resigns from office the position will be filled by another member of the Executive Council in the following order: vice president, secretary, parliamentarian, sergeant-at-arms, historian, reporter, and treasurer.

## **ARTICLE IX- ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

**Section 1** - Each chartered chapter is eligible to nominate one (1) candidate for each regional or state office.

**Section 2** - The officers shall be elected in the following order: president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, sergeant-at-arms, reporter, historian, and parliamentarian.

**Section 3** - It is the intent of Virginia TSA to involve as many different chapters in government as possible and all decisions made concerning officer election not previously covered in this constitution will follow this original intent.

## **ARTICLE X- EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

**Section 1** - The state officers, regional presidents, immediate past president, national officers from Virginia; and the state and regional officers advisors, the State Advisor, State Specialist for Technology Education, and a representative from the Technology Education Alumni Association of Virginia (TEAA), will be known collectively as the Virginia TSA Executive Council.

**Section 2** - The Virginia TSA Executive Council shall consist of the eight (8) state officers, six (6) regional presidents, one (1) past president, fifteen (15) Executive Council advisors, (1) State Specialist for Technology Education, (1) State Advisor for Virginia TSA, (1) Technology Education Alumni Association of Virginia representative, and Virginia TSA members elected to a TSA national office.

**Section 3** - The State Advisor, Executive Council Advisors, State Specialist for Technology Education, and Technology Education Alumni Association of Virginia Representative, will serve in an ex-officio capacity.

## **ARTICLE XI- QUORUM**

**Section 1** - All registered voting delegates in attendance at a regional or state business meeting will constitute a quorum for the purpose of transacting business of Virginia TSA.

**Section 2** - A simple majority of the Virginia TSA Executive Council shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of conducting official meetings.

**Section 3** - A simple majority of the Virginia TSA Regional Executive Council shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of conducting official meetings.

## **ARTICLE XII - REMOVAL FROM OFFICE**

**Section 1** - Any regional or state officer may be removed from office at any time during his/her term for any act that requires legal action, scholastic or moral difficulties.

**Section 2** - Justification for removal from office must be mailed to the Virginia TSA State Advisor.

**Section 3** - Failure by the Virginia TSA State Advisor, parties involved, and the parents to resolve the charges will require action by the Executive Council.

**Section 4** - A 2/3 vote of the Executive Council endorsed by the State Specialist for Technology Education will justify removal from office.

### **ARTICLE XIII - MOTTO AND CREED**

**Section 1** - The motto of Virginia TSA will be: "Learning to Live in a Technical World."

**Section 2** - The creed of Virginia TSA will be:

*"I believe that technology education holds an important place in my life in the technical world. I believe there is a need for the development of good attitudes concerning work, tools, materials, experimentation and process of industry."*

*"Guided by my teachers, artisans from industry, and my own initiative, I will strive to do my best in making my school, community, state, and nation better places in which to live."*

*"I will accept the responsibilities that are mine. I will accept the theories that are supported by proper evidence. I will explore on my own for safer, more effective methods of working and living."*

*"I will strive to develop a cooperative attitude and will exercise tact and respect for other individuals."*

*"Through the work of my hands and mind, I will express my ideas to the best of my ability."*

*"I will make it my goal to do better each day the task before me, and to be steadfast in my belief in my God and my fellow Americans."*

### **ARTICLE XIV - EMBLEM AND COLORS**

**Section 1** - The Virginia TSA emblem is shown below:



**Section 2** - The Virginia TSA colors shall be scarlet (red), white, and navy blue.

**Section 3** - Virginia TSA members shall officially wear navy blue blazers, white shirts or blouses, red ties or equivalent, light gray pants or skirts, and black shoes.

## ARTICLE XV - AMENDMENTS

**Section 1** - To amend this constitution a proposed amendment must be submitted in writing by a local chartered chapter, regional association, or Executive Council proposing the amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws Committee at least ninety (90) days prior to the Annual Meeting. All proposed amendments must be mailed to: Virginia TSA State Office, c/o Constitution and Bylaws Committee, P. O. Box 9045, VSU, Petersburg, VA 23806.

**Section 2** - The Virginia TSA State Advisor must notify in writing all regional associations and state officers of the proposed amendments at least sixty (60) days prior to the Annual Meeting.

**Section 3** - The president must present the proposal and the actions recommended by the Executive Council to the Virginia TSA Advisory Council.

**Section 4** - If approved by the Advisory Council, the proposed amendment will be presented at the next annual meeting of Virginia TSA.

**Section 5** - The state president must notify in writing all local chapters of the proposed amendment(s) at least thirty (30) days prior to the annual meeting.

**Section 6** - The proposed amendment must be considered and approved for ratification by a 3/4 majority of the voting delegates present at the annual meeting.

**Section 7** - The ratified amendment will become effective in sixty (60) days unless a different time period is stipulated.

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July 1, 1998 - Revised  
July 1, 2000 - Revised  
April 23, 2001 - Published on the Internet  
April 28, 2001 - Revised  
April 20, 2002 - Revised  
April 26, 2003 - Revised  
April 30, 2005 - Revised

**Virginia Association  
Of the  
Technology Student Association  
Bylaws**

**ARTICLE I - EXPLANATION OF BYLAWS**

All provisions of these Bylaws are to be considered a part of the Constitution of the Virginia Association of the Technology Student Association.

**ARTICLE II - PRINCIPAL OFFICE AND REGIONS**

**Section 1** - The principal office of Virginia TSA will be in Richmond, Virginia.

**Section 2** - The six regions as set up by the Technology Education Service include the Blue Ridge, South Central, Southwestern, Valley, Northern, and Tidewater. The Virginia TSA state map identifies the specific counties, cities, and towns in each region.

**ARTICLE III- MEMBERSHIP**

**Section 1** - Annual affiliation for active members shall be \$11.00 per member. The term of membership shall be from September 1 to August 31 inclusive. Virginia members are affiliated with the national association.

**Section 2** - All Technology Education students in a school that affiliates through the School Incentive Program (SIP) shall be active members of state and national associations.

**Section 3** - Associate members shall pay a \$11.00 affiliation fee annually.

**Section 4** - Alumni members shall pay a \$20.00 affiliation fee annually.

**Section 5** - Professional members shall pay a \$10.00 affiliation fee annually.

**Section 6** - Associate and alumni members may be appointed to various special committees as deemed necessary by the state president.

**Section 7** - Life and honorary life members shall be active members of an appropriate regional advisory committee and will serve on the Regional Administrative Council in an ex-officio capacity.

**Section 8** - Life members shall pay a one-time fee.

## ARTICLE IV - DUTIES OF OFFICERS

- Section 1 - President:** It shall be the duty of the president to preside at all meetings; to make necessary committee appointments including the designation of committee leaders; to develop for the Executive Council a program of activities for their term of office; and to be available as necessary to promote the general welfare of the association. The president shall be an ex-officio member of all Virginia TSA committees except the Nominating Committee.
- Section 2 - Vice-President:** It shall be the duty of the vice-president to serve in any capacity directed by the president; to accept the responsibility of president as occasion may demand; and to be available as necessary to promote the general welfare of the association.
- Section 3 - Secretary:** It shall be the duty of the secretary to serve in any capacity as directed by the president; to accumulate and keep up-to-date information on the history of the association; to record proceedings of all meetings; and to be available as necessary to promote the general welfare of the association.
- Section 4 - Treasurer:** It shall be the duty of the treasurer to serve in any capacity as directed by the president; to keep all financial records and membership reports as necessary; and to be available as necessary to promote the general welfare of the association.
- Section 5 - Parliamentarian:** It shall be the duty of the parliamentarian to serve in any capacity as directed by the president; to assist in conducting all meetings according to parliamentary procedure as set forth by *Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised*; and to be available as necessary to promote the general welfare of the association.
- Section 6 - Sergeant-at-Arms:** It shall be the duty of the sergeant-at-arms to serve in any capacity as directed by the president; to assist in the preparation and control of the meeting place; and to be available as necessary to promote the general welfare of the association.
- Section 7 - Reporter:** It shall be the duty of the reporter to serve in any capacity as directed by the president; to prepare articles for publication in the *TTT Journal*, *National School Scene*, *TSA Virginia Scene*, and other news media; to contact other association members concerning new items for publication; and to be available as necessary to promote the general welfare of the association.
- Section 8 - Historian:** It shall be the duty of the historian to serve in any capacity as directed by the president; to keep up-to-date information on the history of the association; to keep an accurate and current record book (scrapbook) of the organization's activities; and to be available as necessary to promote the general welfare of the association.

**Section 9 - Past President:** It shall be the duty of the immediate past president to serve as the delegate spokesperson at the National TSA Conference; to advise the president on concerns of the association; and to be available as necessary to promote the general welfare of the association.

**Section 10 - Regional President:** It shall be the duty of each regional president to serve in any capacity as directed by the president; to promote the growth and development of Virginia TSA in their region in accordance with the program of activities operating during their term of office; and to be available as necessary to promote the general welfare of the association.

## **ARTICLE VI - DUTIES OF THE TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION STATE SPECIALIST**

**Section 1** - The State Specialist for Technology Education shall serve as the Virginia TSA corporate member in accordance with the National TSA, Inc., Articles of Incorporation. (Virginia TSA became a chartered member of TSA, Inc., in June 1978.)

**Section 2** - The State Specialist for Technology Education shall have the responsibility for developing the State Advisor's annual program of work; and shall evaluate such services on an annual basis.

## **ARTICLE VI - DUTIES OF THE VIRGINIA TSA STATE ADVISOR**

**Section 1** - The State Advisor will provide direction to improve the program and teaching of Technology Education in the public schools of Virginia through Virginia TSA.

**Section 2** - The State Advisor will coordinate activities with the Department of Education's Technology Education staff, local supervisors of Technology Education, Technology Education teacher educators, and school division personnel.

**Section 3** - The State Advisor will have the responsibility of carrying out the administrative functions of Virginia TSA as assigned by the State Specialist for Technology Education. The State Advisor will consult with the State Specialist for Technology Education, the Virginia TSA Advisory Committee, and the Virginia TSA Executive Council of Virginia TSA, to ensure that all services are appropriately carried out.

**Section 4** - The State Advisor will provide copies of all written correspondence, reports, materials, and projects, to the State Specialist for Technology Education, before distribution.

**Section 5** - Set hours of operation and a weekly schedule of activities for the upcoming month must be submitted to the State Specialist for Technology on the 25th of each month.

Schedule changes must be discussed with the State Specialist for Technology in advance of the schedule change.

#### **ARTICLE V - DUTIES OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL ADVISOR**

**Section 1** - The Executive Council Advisor will direct the responsibilities of the Executive Council and will be aided by the co-executive advisors and the Virginia TSA State Advisor.

**Section 2** - The Executive Council Advisor will serve as chairperson of the Regional Administrative Council and will advise that council.

**Section 3** - The Executive Council Advisor will be the Technosphere manager of TSA events plus assume leadership of the state officer program, general session meetings, and the TSA Award Program. Additional information concerning the responsibilities are explained in the TSA guide entitled, *TSA Advisors Handbook*.

#### **ARTICLE VII - ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**Section 1** - The advisory committee will be appointed by the State Specialist for Technology Education (DOE).

**Section 2** - The advisory committee will advise the State Advisor in planning, organizing, and maintaining relevant Virginia TSA programs.

#### **ARTICLE VIII - REGIONAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

**Section 1** - The advisors of TSA members elected to a regional office will be known as the Regional Executive Council.

**Section 2** - The regional advisors will represent Virginia TSA in research, public relations, financial interest, and serve in any capacity as appointed by the Regional Executive Council Advisor.

**Section 3** - The advisor(s) of the president in each region will be a member of the Virginia TSA State Executive Council and will serve in an ex-officio capacity.

#### **ARTICLE IX- PROCEDURE FOR ISSUING CHARTERS TO LOCAL CHAPTERS**

**Section 1** - By August 31 of each year, an informational packet of TSA will be distributed to all Technology Education teachers from the TSA State Office.

**Section 2** - Virginia TSA may issue a charter to a local chapter when: (1) an application has been filed in the TSA State Office and approved by the Virginia TSA State Advisor; (2) a copy of the chapters' program of activities has been filed in the TSA State Office (if required by the State Association), and (3) current state and national affiliation fees have been paid.

## **ARTICLE X - AMENDMENTS**

**Section 1** - To amend these bylaws, a proposed amendment must be submitted in writing by a local chartered chapter, regional association, or Executive Council proposing the amendment to the Constitution Committee at least ninety (90) days prior to the annual meeting. All proposed amendments must be mailed to: Virginia TSA State Office, c/o Constitution and Bylaws Committee, P. O. Box 9045, VSU, Petersburg, VA 23806.

**Section 2** - The president must notify in writing the regional associations and state officers of the proposed amendments at least sixty (60) days prior to the annual meeting.

**Section 3** - The president must present the proposal and the actions recommended by the Executive Council to the Virginia TSA Advisory Council.

**Section 4** - If approved by the Advisory Council, the proposed amendment will be presented at the next annual meeting of Virginia TSA.

**Section 5** - The state president must notify in writing all local chapters of the proposed amendment(s) at least thirty (30) days prior to the annual meeting.

**Section 6** - The proposed amendment must be considered and approved for ratification by a 2/3 majority of the voting delegates present at the annual meeting.

**Section 7** - The ratified amendment will become effective in sixty (60) days unless a different time period is stipulated.

**END**

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July 1, 1998 - Revised

July 1, 2000 - Revised

April 24, 2001 - Published on the Internet

July 31, 2005 - Updated to reflect changes in National TSA membership